

Spanish cabinet for all parties

MADRID, Aug. 11, (AFP). — The Spanish government aims to allow all political parties, communists included, total freedom of action and is prepared to override a hostile parliament to set up a democratically elected legislature, a leading member of the opposition said today after talks with Prime Minister Adolfo Suarez.

Felipe Gonzalez, Secretary General of the Spanish Workers' Socialist Party, told AFP that he left a three-hour meeting with Mr. Suarez last night "optimistic about the political future of Spain."

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جورن تايمز يومية سياسية تصدر عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية «الراي»

Andreotti wins vote in chamber

ROME, Aug. 11 (AFP). — A new minority Christian Democrat Italian government headed by Premier Giulio Andreotti today cleared its last parliamentary hurdle before taking office when it easily won a confidence vote in the Chamber of Deputies (lower house) thanks to an abstention by Communists.

Mr. Andreotti denied that Communist abstentions would constitute a step closer to the "historic compromise" of participation in the government alongside the Christian Democrats proposed four days ago.

Price: 50 fils

Israel imposes partial blockade on West Bank trade

NABLUS, occupied West Bank, Aug. 11, (R). — The Israeli military authorities have retaliated against a ten-day strike by Arab traders in the occupied West Bank by restricting trade across the Jordan river, an Arab mayor said today.

Mayor Bassam Al Shaka of Nablus, biggest city in the West Bank, told Reuters that the Israelis had turned back lorries carrying industrial goods to the East Bank and prevented lorries from bringing farm produce into the occupied territory.

An extensive two-way trade has developed under an "open bridges" policy since 1967 to sustain the economy of the occupied West Bank.

Israeli military authorities declined to make any comment on the matter. Nablus has been the centre of the strike and several clashes have occurred here between Arab youths and Israeli forces.

Mr. Al Shaka said he believed the new measures were designed to punish local traders who have shut their shops since Aug. 1, when a new eight-per-cent value-added tax (VAT) was imposed in the West Bank.

Almost all shops here and in other northern towns remained closed today except for vegetable stores not affected by VAT.

Small bombs went off early today outside two Israeli banks in Ramallah, military sources said today.

The blast from one explosion shattered the door of the Bank Leumi offices. The other bomb did not cause any damage.

Defence Minister Shimon Peres today expressed his readiness to meet West Bank businessmen to discuss the new tax but said he doubted that it could be rescinded.

"I will be happy to meet Arab businessmen but I do not think we can repeal the tax because too much trade goes on between Israel and the West Bank," he told reporters.

Preventive detention extended South African flare-up spreads; but Soweto quiet

JOHANNESBURG, Aug. 11 (Agencies). — Violent demonstrations spread to dozens of African townships around Pretoria, Johannesburg and the Cape today.

But the big townships of Soweto and Alexandra, where the bloody disturbances first started, were calm today. Armed police travelled on buses entering the two suburbs however, and the vehicles were escorted by police cars.

In Cape Town, special police units were sent into the townships of Langa and Guguletu as hundreds of children left school classes to parade through streets singing religious songs.

Police twice opened fire during the night on Africans in Alexandra township, near Johannesburg, once when black youths stoned a police squad.

They also fired into Africans looting a building firm's yard and said they believed several blacks were hit. But no casualty reports were received.

At Kaigo township at Krugersdorp, north of here, police said they arrested 76 students when several hundred of them stoned a high school and other government-owned buildings.

Blacks in Pretoria's Mamelodi township stoned government vehicles and tried to burn a high school and at Ka Thema, near Springs, slogan-chanting students left class.

[Continued on page 6]

The importance of being a possible U.S. vice-president

WASHINGTON, Aug. 11 (AFP). — Never before has the choice of a vice-presidential running mate been so important in a campaign to elect a new American president.

Whereas Democrat Jimmy Carter, assured of his party's nomination for the presidency, summoned a series of possible vice-presidents for examination, Republican Ronald Reagan has taken an extraordinary gamble in his tussled war with President Gerald Ford for the party's nomination.

The challenger chose liberal Senator Richard Schweiker as his running mate three weeks before the opening of the Republican convention in an attempt to force President Ford to show his cards too.

The subtle calculation of Reagan's strategists was that the president would antagonise a section of delegates committed to him if he chose a conservative or a liberal.

Mr. Ford has countered this manoeuvre by following the tradition of not revealing the name of his number-two before himself receiving the party's nomination.

Others whose names have been mentioned are Senator Robert Do-

Tal Al-Zaatar on verge of collapse

BEIRUT, Aug. 11, (AFP). — Fighting raged in the heart of Tal Al Zaatar Palestinian refugee camp today and rightwing forces assaulting the camp said its defenders now held only a dozen buildings. The commander of rightwing Phalangist forces in eastern Beirut, Bechir Gemayel, said "hundreds" of persons had surrendered inside the camp and that there were now no more than about 1,500 civilians and combatants still holding out. The camp, on the outskirts of Beirut, had an original population of 30,000 and has been besieged for 51 days.

The rightwing Radio Lebanon said Palestinians inside Tal Al Zaatar were shooting at people trying to leave. The Palestinian Wafa news agency denied that people there were surrendering.

Mr. Gemayel said rightwing forces were helping those who surrendered and that Palestinians were being handed over to "their respective organisations." Unofficial sources said 98 persons were killed and 134 wounded in fighting in the Lebanese capital yesterday.

Twenty seven died when the rightists hurled 100 armoured vehicles into the attack on Tal Al Zaatar, the sources said.

Palestinian and leftwing Lebanese soldiers hit back by bombarding the region around Tal Al Zaatar held by the rightists, who reported beating back attempts by Palestinians and leftists to infiltrate the Monte Verde quarter about three kilometres (2 miles) east of the camp.

A Palestinian spokesman painted a gloomy picture of conditions inside the camp.

"It is turning into a mass grave," he said.

Between 10 and 20 children were dying every day from dehydration and many people were succumbing to wounds. But there was no question of surrender.

Palestinian forces had not lost their balance so far, he said, and even if the camp did fall there

Phalangists, Palestinians agree to evacuate Tal Al-Zaatar

BEIRUT, Aug. 11, (R). — Rightist and Palestinian leaders agreed tonight on the complete evacuation of Tal Al Zaatar Arab League envoy Hassan Sabri Al Kholi said here.

He gave no details of the agreement and observers noted that the Phalangist party, which signed the agreement for the Lebanese right, controls only one sector of the attackers' perimeter.

Observers were sceptical about the effectiveness of tonight's accord.

[Continued on page 6]

Indian Ocean security dominates first day of Non-Aligned F.M.'s Conference

COLOMBO, Aug. 11, (R). — Manoeuvring for positions and influence in the Indian Ocean by the United States, the Soviet Union and other powers will be one of the key topics confronting non-aligned foreign ministers who began a four-day meeting here today. Many of the 85 nations represented at the Non-Aligned Conference border the vast ocean which stretches from Africa to Australia, or they have a vested interest in it as hinterland states.

A draft declaration before the foreign ministers suggests that South Asia has replaced Southeast Asia as the main arena of great power rivalry since the end of the Indochina conflicts.

It adds that this is likely to lead to tension and conflict in the Indian Ocean through growing competition for naval superiority among the most powerful nations.

The draft condemns "the maintenance and development of military bases and facilities... by the great powers" but it does not mention the United States by name.

The foreign ministers' conference opened with a call for unity and a special welcome for Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia following last year's victories by pro-communist forces in Indochina.

Angola, Comoro Islands and Seychelles, three countries which gained independence recently, were also welcomed as full members of the movement.

"We must maintain our unity and solidarity," the conference's new chairman, Finance and Justice Minister Felix Bandaranaike of Sri Lanka told delegates from the 85-member grouping.

The conference's outgoing chairman, Algerian Foreign Minister Abdel Aziz Bouteflika, said the experience gained since the fourth non-aligned conference held in Algiers three years ago, had made it possible for members to move forward with "new confidence in the victory of our movement."

The present conference, which is preparing for next Monday's gathering of heads of state, is being held at the Chinese-built Bandaranaike Memorial International Conference Hall amid tight security.

The foreign ministers' draft declaration, in its reference to the Indian Ocean, says that facilities established by the great powers in pursuit of their strategic interests "constitute a direct threat to

[Continued on page 6]

4 El Al passengers killed, 20 wounded in Istanbul airport drama

ANKARA, Aug. 11, (Agencies). — Four passengers of an Israeli airliner were killed and 20 wounded in a bomb attack and subsequent gun-battle at Istanbul airport tonight, the Anatolia News Agency reported.

First reports were confused but it appeared that three people had opened fire and set off explosives as they were going through a final security checkpoint to board an El Al flight to Tel Aviv.

Four guerrillas detonated a bomb and then barricaded themselves in a room with hostages, a correspondent of Agence France-Presse was told at the airport.

He reported seeing a blood-covered young man cross the airport terminal hall after the explosion.

Security forces surrounded the airport, and four armoured vehicles took up positions at exits. Electricity was cut off.

Three fire trucks took up positions on the runways, and high ranking police officials took command of airport guards, he reported.

In Tel Aviv, an El Al spokesman said he understood gunmen from a Pakistani airliner were involved in the incident.

The spokesman said an El Al executive had spoken to the pilot of an Israeli airliner about to take off from Istanbul. The pilot was quoted as saying no shots were fired at the aircraft, which was undamaged.

Rhodesia accuses Mozambique Mortar attack shakes Rhodesian "frontline city"

UMTALI, Rhodesia, Aug. 11, (Reuter). — Rhodesia tonight accused Mozambique's regular forces of launching early morning mortar bombardments of the border city of Umtali and a Rhodesian police post to the south. An official communique declared emphatically that troops of the Mozambique Frelimo government — not black Rhodesian guerrillas — were responsible for the mortar attack on Umtali from across the Mozambique border three miles (five kms) away.

Two African civilians were the only people injured in the bombardment, the communique said, adding: "Minor damage was caused to government installations,

with more serious damage to civilian property."

The communique said that at the same time as the Umtali attack, mortar fire was directed at the Vila Salazar police post about 250 miles (400 kms) south of the city.

The bombardments were an apparent reprisal for a weekend raid [Continued on page 6]

Tension eases as Turkey, Greece prepare for Security Council debate

ANKARA, Aug. 11, (R). — Fears of an imminent military confrontation between Greece and Turkey abated today as they prepared for an emergency United Nations Security Council meeting on tension over their rival territorial claims to the Aegean seabed.

Greek naval units continued to shadow the Turkish research ship Sismik 1, whose hunt for oil in disputed areas of the Aegean sparked off the crisis last weekend.

Turkey released the text of a note delivered to Greece yesterday in which it called for an end to "harassment" of the Sismik by Greek naval and airforce units.

"Responsibility for any undesirable incident that might occur as a result of such provocative action will lie with Greece," the note said.

Greece says the Sismik has violated its sovereignty by taking soundings over its continental shelf.

But, with the start tomorrow of the United Nations debate, diplomats here said there appeared to be slightly less tension between Ankara and Athens, uneasy partners in the North Atlantic Alliance.

Mr. Abe, who is the chief delegate of Japan, was expected to summon the council into full session on the issue tomorrow morning, to hear an opening statement by Greek Foreign Minister Dimitris Bitsios.

Mr. Bitsios is due in New York later today from Athens.

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South Africa and Israel; fighting fire with fire

Israel has retaliated against the West Bank strike by imposing an economic blockade on the occupied territories. West Bank Arabs are being prevented from selling their industrial goods in the East Bank and lorries carrying East Bank agricultural produce have been barred from entering the occupied territories.

So the economic war is on.

At the same time, the South African government has decided to extend to the whole country the powers of preventive detention under the internal security act. These sweeping powers of arrest without charge or trial had previously been restricted to the Transvaal Province, which houses Johannesburg and the black township of Soweto.

Ironically, the current state of violence had been motivated by the desire to free leaders of the June troubles who were being held without trial.

The decisions by Israel and South Africa to fight fire with fire reflects a common mentality. The idea is not to give in an inch, to hit back, and hit hard at protestors, to impose high-handed punishments on people asking for fair treatment. Unconsciously, South Africa and Israel are bringing their policies towards subjugated peoples closer in line. The Israelis have been using this device in the occupied territories for some time.

The question is what results do such policies have? In South Africa, the demand for the release of imprisoned colleagues was transformed into strident demands for scrapping the entire policy of apartheid. If the South African government insists on apartheid, the blacks will become more militant. The Africans of the country have learned that peaceful protest leads nowhere. They have turned to the only alternative left them by their white rulers. Intransigence breeds intransigence.

Unrest in the West Bank, which cannot be said to have really stopped since the beginning of this year swept radical nationalists and outspoken opponents of Israeli occupation into office in the last round of municipal elections. The reason is obvious: the Arabs of the occupied territories are fed up with their lot. From the creeping erosion of their civil liberties, their religious and cultural heritage and the establishment of Jewish settlements on Arab land, to the denial of the right to self-determination, the process has repeatedly brought the situation in the occupied territories to the boiling point. Now, the same people are being asked to bear a crippling economic burden.

If the issue were a purely economic one, if it were just a question of the value-added tax, then the Israeli measure might work. The point is that the basic question is not that of a tax, it is the question of a people who are at their tether's end, who cannot take any more. Israel cannot win at this game. If it succeeds in forcing the value-added tax down the throats of Arab merchants, Israel will have added just that much more to the rich store of resentment harboured in people's hearts. That would be a welcome emotional tax whose revenues will go into the nationalist treasury. The West Bank, with its economy groaning under the burden of a tax it cannot support will be even more fertile soil for discontent. If the Israelis back down on the other hand, they will have lost face and it will be counted as a victory for the advocates of liberation. In either case, Israel will end up with the short end of the stick.

Similarly, the new sweeping powers of internment the John Vorster government has granted itself could prove a severe liability. The more people it arrests, the more reason the blacks will have to take to the streets. The entire concept of locking up "instigators" and "ringleaders" is erroneous in this case. Popular discontent depends on the people, not their leaders. The only lasting solution is to remove the cause of resentment.

Of course, the gut response of the Israeli and South African overlords to more strident demands for the redress of grievances is to consolidate their power over the subjugated peoples, to show them who is boss. Needless to say, this has not proven to be the best approach.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

On the occasion of the anniversary of His Majesty King Hussein's accession to the throne, the Jordanian press has devoted its editorials to talk about some aspects of Jordan's significant achievements during the past 24 years of his reign.

Al Rai first remarks that King Hussein was less than 18 years of age when he took over from his late father King Talal. It says that since he assumed the leadership, Hussein's influence on the life of his people was unmatched by any other political leader. "In the hearts of the people he inculcated zealotness, self-confidence and readiness to carry out their national duties that no other leader in Arab modern history could have accomplished" Al Rai points out.

Al Dustour notes that during the past 24 years of his reign King Hussein has reestablished the noblest and the most time-honoured Arab traditions; and he did likewise in the relationships between Jordan and brother Arab countries, and in his dealings with the international society at large. As a staunch believer in the inevitability of the ultimate victory of the Arab cause, King Hussein was and still is exerting sincere efforts for the unification of all the Arab people so that they may be able to achieve success for their just cause, Al Dustour says.

Al Shaab says that King Hussein was aware right from the beginning that rule is not distinguished honour and preeminence, but is a heavy burden with all the responsibilities involved therein. The paper puts on record that King Hussein has always acted to make Jordan a model Arab state, in terms of its pure and sound unity, flourishing freedom and King Hussein has reestablished the noblest and the most time-honoured Arab traditions; and he did likewise in the relationships between Jordan and brother Arab countries, and in his dealings with the international society at large.

King Hussein receives cables of congratulations

AMMAN. — His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday received cables of congratulations from a number of heads of states on the occasion of the 24th anniversary of his accession to the throne.

Cables were received from the

President of the United Arab Emirates Sheikh Zayed Ibn Sultan Al Nahyan, Sheikh Sabah Al Salem Al Sabah ruler of Kuwait, Emperor Rida Pahlavi of Iran, Pakistan's President Fazal Elahi Chaudhry, and Pakistan's Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto.

Cooperative team leaves for Syria

AMMAN. — A Jordanian Cooperative delegation Wednesday left for Syria on a three-day visit for talks with the Syrian Farmers Union to boost cooperation between the two countries in the field of the cooperative movement.

Discussions are expected to centre on Syria providing Jordan with large quantities of maize to be processed locally into feedstuff for sale to farmers, at cost-price.

The delegation led by the Director-General of the Jordanian Cooperatives Organisation (JCO) Marwan Douline will also sign with the Syrian Farmers Union a cooperation protocol organising relations between the two establishments, in particular in the field of training, supplying Jordan with fertilisers, and the exchange

of information and experience in the cooperative domain.

The delegation will also look over the activities of Syrian cooperatives and Syria's recent experiment in processing and selling feedstuff.

Syrian Premier receives Abou Odeh

DAMASCUS, (JNA). — Syrian Prime Minister General Abdul Rahman Khleifawi tonight received Mr. Adnan Abou Odeh, the Minister of Information and Culture, accompanied by his Syrian counterpart Mr. Ahmad Iskandar Ahmed and the Jordanian Delegation currently visiting Syria.

During the meeting, the Syrian Prime Minister discussed Jordanian-Syrian relations in general and the work of the joint information committee in particular.

Information meetings start in Damascus

DAMASCUS. — Jordan's Minister of Culture and Information Adnan Abou Odeh, accompanied by his Syrian counterpart Ahmed Iskandar Ahmed, Wednesday paid a visit to the city of Quneitra in the Golan Heights, to inspect the extent of the ruin in which Israel left the city after its withdrawal from the area in mid-1974.

Mr. Abou Odeh is heading a Jordanian information delegation which arrived here Tuesday to attend the periodic meetings of the Joint Jordanian-Syrian Information Committee entrusted to implement information integration between Syria and Jordan.

On Wednesday morning, the subsidiary information committee branching from the Joint Jordanian-Syrian Information Committee held a meeting here at the Radio and Television Centre to continue discussions of the Committee's agenda.

The Subsidiary committee was presided over by Jordan's Information Under-secretary Dia Al Dine Rifai and his Syrian counterpart Adib Ghanam.

The Joint Jordanian-Syrian Information Committee had held its first round of talks on Tuesday

evening at the Radio and Television Centre. During this first meeting, the committee reviewed the resolutions it had adopted in its previous meeting in Amman, to assess what has been achieved and try to overcome the obstacles which some of the resolutions encountered during implementation.

Royal Commission adopts projects on University

AMMAN. — The Royal Commission for the Yarmuk University Wednesday approved a number of University projects which will be submitted to the Council of Ministers for endorsement.

These include an aid programme to university students, the University's scientific research project, and the regulations governing the equivalence of other university diplomas.

The meeting, held here at the Royal Scientific Society was presided over by the Commission's Chairman, Prime Minister Mudar Badran.

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Exchange Rates

Following are the official exchange rates at the close of the business day yesterday. The two figures denote buying and selling prices in Jordanian fils:

U.S. dollar	331.0	333.0
U.K. sterling	595.0	601.0
French franc	66.1	67.1
Swiss franc	133.6	134.0
German mark	130.4	130.8
Iraqi dinar	940.0	945.0
Syrian pound	81.6	82.1
Egyptian pound	470.0	480.0
Lebanese pound	106.7	107.5
U.A.E. dirham	83.3	84.0

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Television

Channel 3 & 6:	9.30 Quiz programme
6.00 Quran	
6.15 Cartoons	
6.30 Children's programme	Channel 6:
7.00 Cop and the kid	7.30 News in Hebrew
8.00 News in Arabic	7.45 Varieties
	8.30 Sixth sense
	9.30 Feature film
Channel 3:	10.00 News in English
7.30 Science and life	10.15 Cont. of feature
8.30 Arabic series	

Amman Airport

Departures:	Arrivals:
8.00 Cairo	9.00 Cairo (EA)
10.30 Cairo (EA)	9.30 Bangkok, Bahrain
11.00 Cairo	9.30 Dhahran
	9.40 Kuwait
11.15 Kuwait (KAC)	10.30 Kuwait (KAC)
11.30 Athens, Madrid, Casablanca	12.20 Deer Azour, Damascus (Sy. A)
12.35 London (BA)	14.30 Cairo
13.00 Aqaba (Sy. A)	15.05 Aqaba (Sy. A)
13.30 Paris	17.30 Cairo
20.00 Cairo	18.15 Copenhagen, Vienna
20.00 Abu-Dhabi, Bangkok	19.00 Rome
21.30 Cairo	19.00 London
22.30 Riyadh, Dhahran	21.00 Amsterdam, Athens (KLM)
	21.20 Riyadh (SAA)

Market Prices

Apples (double red): 160-180	Apples (starken): 80-110
Bell pepper: 60-80	Bananas: 170-200
Cauliflower: 150-170	Cabbage: 50-80
Cucumbers (small): 120-140	Cucumbers (large): 60-80
Eggplant (small): 50-70	Eggplant (large): 15-25
Figs: 140-180	Grapefruit: 50-70
Green beans: 70-90	Garlic (dry) (large): 210-240
Grapes (green): 110-140	Hot pepper: 60-80
Lemon: 140-180	Marrow (small): 70-100
Marrow (regular): 50-70	Musk melon: 90-120
Orange: 120-140	Onions (dry) imported: 70-90
Onions (white): 40-65	Okra (red): 100-120
Okra (green): 150-180	Potatoes (imported): 100-130
Potatoes (local): 100-130	Peaches (large): 200-220
Peaches (small): 100-120	Pears: 200-240
Pomegranats: 60-80	String beans: 150-180
Tomatoes: 70-90	Spinach: 40-55
Water melon (large): 80	Water melon (small): 50
Wild cucumbers (small): 60-80	Wild cucumbers (large): 30-50

Radio

(On 856 KHZ)
7.00 Breakfast show, morning melodies
7.30 News bulletin
7.40 Newsreel
8.00 Sign off
12.00 Pop session (Part I)
1.00 News summary
1.04 Pop session (Part II)
2.00 News bulletin
2.15 Radio magazine
2.30 Music cavalcade
3.00 Concert hour
4.00 Old favourites
4.30 Easy listening
5.00 Thriller
5.30 Pop session (Part III)
6.00 News summary
6.03 Listener's choice
6.30 Science report
7.00 News bulletin
7.10 Newsreel
7.30 Sign off

Emergencies

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Fuad Abu Jassar: (21511)
Pharmacies:
Mahatta: (55453)
Sulkar: (25041)
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Youth City: (63273)
Rainbow: (37249)
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Berlin 'wall of shame' celebrates 15th anniversary

WEST BERLIN, Aug. 11, (R). — Just after one a.m. on Sunday, August 13, 1961, Wolfgang Muller, a citizen of communist East Germany, stepped off the Berlin elevated railway at the zoo station in West Berlin.

The 52-year-old labourer asked a policeman the way to the Marienfelde refugee camp, and within 45 minutes he was there—the 17,520th East German refugee that month.

What Herr Muller did not know was that he was one of the last East Germans to flee from the communist regime for the price of a 20-pfennig (at that time six pence sterling) railway ticket.

For, as Berlin was sleeping into that quiet summer Sunday, 15 years ago, all trains connecting the communist and the western part of the city were suddenly stopped.

At the same time, armed police and workers' militia sealed off all border roads, forming a living wall in places and putting up barricades and rolls of barbed wire.

The building of the Berlin wall had begun.

The precisely-executed East German operation, supported by the Soviet Union and the other Warsaw Pact countries, caught western governments by surprise.

While the border between East and West Germany had long been closed, West Berlin—made up of the three western allied sectors of the city 175 kilometers (110 miles) inside East German territory—had provided a last exit for East Germans disenchanted with communist leader Walter Ulbricht's rule.

Despite increasing controls inside East Germany and East Berlin more and more people crossed into West Berlin with hardly more than the clothes they wore.

In the final week, before the border was closed, over 2,000 people a day were registered at the West Berlin refugee camp.

Throughout August 13 East German army sappers worked to erect fences along the border, while incredulous West Berliners assembled near the Brandenburg Gate demanding that the western allies—the United States, France, and Britain—order their troops to remove the border obstacles.

But the allied soldiers stayed in their barracks and West Berlin police had to hold the crowd in check to prevent clashes with East German guards.

In the next few days, while western politicians considered an appropriate response which would not carry the risk of war, the East Germans put together the first concrete slabs to form a wall which has since become a symbol of Germany's division.

In the past 15 years the elaborate border fortifications along the 165-kilometer (100-mile) perimeter of West Berlin have claimed 70 known victims. Successful escapes have steadily declined over the years.

The wall, some three meters (10 feet) high, is the last obstacle a would-be refugee has to scale.

East Berliners are kept some 100 meters away by a security system of barbed wire, tank barriers, trip wires, patrol dogs, and bunkers.

The city border is floodlit by night and East German border guards man some 240 watch towers, with orders to shoot on sight if necessary.

The "modern border", as it is now called by the East Germans, has proved almost impregnable, and fewer and fewer East Germans risk their lives trying to cross it.

Only five deaths have occurred in the last five years. The last was in January, 1975.

There were also fewer shooting incidents and only 30 people managed to cross it last year.

But the number of East German refugees using other escape routes has remained fairly constant in the last 10 years. Averaging between 5,000 and 6,000 a year.

More refugees are reaching the

west through other socialist countries or are smuggled out of the country in cars over the transit roads between West Berlin and West Germany.

The four-power Berlin agreement of 1971 and east-west rapprochement last year in Helsinki have not raised the hopes of West Berliners that the wall might come down soon.

They have learned to live with it and a sense of impotent outrage has given way to a grudging acceptance of a political reality.

In 1972 West Berliners were again allowed to cross the wall for the first time in six years and have since paid millions of visits to relatives and friends on the other side.

Again this year there are unlikely to be many West Berliners demonstrating against the "wall of shame" on the 15th anniversary of its erection.

So far, only one youth organisation has announced plans for a torch light parade to mourn the victims of the wall.

Meanwhile the communist authorities have begun to replace parts of the old wall by a new, bigger, and brighter, structure.

Already West Berliners have made good use of the newly white-washed surface to paint, in large red letters, such slogans as: "down with Brezhnev, the Hitler of today."

New discoveries announced in Pompeii

NAPLES, ITALY, Aug. 11, (R).

Archaeologists uncovered the perfectly-preserved remains of two inhabitants of Pompeii in what could be the largest cemetery ever found there, it was announced today.

Dr. Irene Cerulli-Irelli, director of the Pompeii museum, said the discovery of the cemetery, outside the northern walls of the buried city, was of exceptional importance.

One body is believed to be that of a local magistrate, Marco Obello Firmo, the son of a rich family.

He was a candidate in local elections in 79 A.D., the year Pompeii was destroyed by molten lava from Mount Vesuvius. The elections never took place.

The other body found since archaeologists opened the cemetery on Saturday, was of a young woman, thought to have been the magistrate's wife or daughter.

Next to the bodies was a collection of belongings, including a bronze statue thought to represent the goddess of fortune and a silver necklace.

Pompeii was founded in the sixth century B.C. and by the time it was destroyed it had a population of 20,000, of whom about 2,000 perished in the eruption.

Climate and western facilities encourage foreign companies to set up office in Amman

Last year the government passed a law to encourage foreign companies to set up offices in Amman. Provisions include tax exemptions on profits earned outside Jordan, customs duty exemptions on company property and personal effects brought into Jordan by non-Jordanian employees and the provision of work permits for these employees. However, both government officials and company representatives feel there are certain difficulties faced by companies coming to Amman whether caused by the Law itself or by general economic problems. The first part of these problems as seen by government officials. Today's part concludes with the views of company representatives.

By Cliff Bale

Special to the Jordan Times
Personal considerations, such as climate and western facilities, are tipping the balance in favour of Amman as a regional centre for foreign companies.

These facts emerged in a series of interviews given for the Jordan Times by the managers of three companies who have set themselves up since the adoption of the Registration of Foreign Companies Law No. 46 in November 1975.

Mr. George Stirling is the manager of Northrop's regional office, and is therefore in charge of sales of Northrop aircraft to the Middle East.

His main reasons for coming to Amman are that it is a pleasant city with a pleasant climate. For him it is westernised enough to reduce the "cultural shock" of coming to an Arab country.

This does not mean that business reasons did not come into the reckoning, for, as he stresses, doing business in the Arab community means becoming an integral part of Arab society, establishing personal links with the Arab business community.

Jordan, he feels, being located centrally, is a meeting place for businessmen, especially as there is high respect for the Jordanian businessman. This makes Amman a very desirable regional centre.

Mr. Stirling came to Amman six months ago—straight from California, Northrop's home. Previously he had been regularly travelling to the Middle East from California, but his present location has reduced travelling time from months to weeks, giving him more time with customers.

However, he does not consider the Registration of Foreign Companies Law as attractive as it looks on the surface. "It is not able to deliver what is demanded of it, for the supply of services has not caught up with demand," he stresses.

"In the ministries there is a marked lack of education at the lower levels regarding Companies Law 46," he continues; "I had a very traumatic time getting my car cleared through customs, having to go from ministry to ministry before everything was finally settled."

Mr. Stirling has been waiting three months for a telex, although he had no problem in obtaining a telephone (although the regional manager of NCR, at the time of writing, had neither telephone nor telex).

Northrop's manager has no trouble in finding employees, and was surprised to find such a large selection of office equipment available in the capital.

Settling down was no problem, for as he remarks: "The Jordanians are friendly, sincere people, and are extremely helpful. I could not have made the progress I did in the last three months without their help—with even the smallest problems."

His one recurring problem is telling clients his exact location on Jebel Amman, but he has now produced a small map, which should resolve this.

Delaval Turbine was the first company to register under Companies Law 46—back in November 1975. A further 24 American companies had since followed suit up to July last.

For Mr. Harber, Delaval's manager, climate and satisfactory schooling facilities attracted him to Amman.

His company, selling engineering products such as compressors, engines and turbines, first examined the suitability of Beirut, but conditions were too intolerable.

The Gulf states were too prohibitive in cost, schools were overcrowded and the climate unbearable. Cairo was generally too overcrowded and Tehran was plagued with too many bureaucratic restrictions.

This left Amman, with its excellent business climate, communications, and availability of housing and schooling.

Mr. Harber did not feel when he arrived, finding the large expatriate community a great advantage.

He had no difficulty in finding a suitable office, office equipment or an assistant. He had "minor trouble" in obtaining a telex and telex, although he stresses that one has to be patient and persistent.

He feels that now things are more difficult, especially with inflation. "Housing is at least four times more expensive when we arrived here, and the cost is certainly costing more to conduct," he states.

This is reflected by Mr. West, manager of Babcock Wilcox, the British engineering company forced out of Beirut in November.

One of his main complaints was the persistent "gazumping" or continual raising of prices of office accommodation and housing in general, that took place at the exodus from Beirut.

"Those people who had properties to let realised they were on a goldmine. The gazumping that consequently took place was extremely annoying and only led to the long-term displacement of the Jordanians," he states.

In the end he found suitable accommodation in Shmashan, set up office in the minimum time. He has had no trouble finding his office staff, whom he considers very competent and hard-working.

His complaints concern certain procedures in Companies Law itself: for example to bring his company car into Jordan, which according to the Law can be imported without duty, Mr. West had to pay a bond equivalent to the tax fees.

This bond, he feels, is doing absolutely no good to any Chamber of Industry officials, and on this point, and are pretty trying to eliminate this some procedure."

In addition, he points to the agree air service in comparison that from Beirut, when it was booming regional centre, may have to wait a few days to fly to a major financial centre, London or Paris, he states.

Mr. West came here after leaving several other centres. Amman was remote from the Middle East, and anyway language was stumbling block; Cairo's facilities were too overloaded; and, although possessing a reasonable infrastructure, was too harshly run.

In comparison, he finds Amman a very pleasant city to live in although admittedly not the "glowing city" for the bachelor.

As for longer-term aims, West stresses that he would be as long as his company remains reasonably successful in Amman.

This, of course, is the golden rule for all 89 companies registered here as regional offices: present companies are happy set up office here, but if conditions remained unchecked, pressures would mount to move elsewhere.

It is up to Jordan to maintain her advantages, Ministry of Commerce officials stress.

Florida newspaper claims evidence exists that Castro ordered John Kennedy dead

LANTANA, Florida Aug. 11 (AFP)

— The sensation-seeking "National Enquirer" newspaper Monday reported that John F. Kennedy was assassinated on orders of Cuban Premier Fidel Castro and that irrefutable documents to prove the charge exist.

The weekly newspaper said that four Dallas, Texas, policemen had decided to talk about the November 1963 murder of the president after 12 years of silence. Only two are still on the Dallas force.

According to the Enquirer, the policemen said they had seen 33 documents establishing a connection between Lee Harvey Oswald, the president's accused killer, Jack Ruby, who killed Oswald, and a third man whose identity has not been revealed. The Enquirer listed the four policemen as Billy Preston and Michael Callahan, who still belong to the Dallas Police Department, Ben Cash, who now heads the Port Authority, Texas, police, and Tom Stokard, now a candidate for the job of Dallas police commissioner, an elective post.

The Enquirer said that Mr. Preston was the first to find the documents. It said he read them before turning them over to County Attorney Henry Wade.

"There is no doubt in my mind that the evidence proved a conspiracy," the Enquirer quoted Mr. Preston as saying.

Mr. Wade, questioned by the Enquirer, confirmed that the four policemen had given him the documents at his home on Jan. 23, 1964.

He said he turned them over to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

The FBI told the newspaper that it gave the documents to the Warren Commission, which investigated the assassination, on Feb. 11, 1964. The Enquirer said the FBI said the documents were now in the National Archives in Washington.

But the Enquirer said that its query at the National Archives indicated that the documents had disappeared.

The newspaper quoted one of the four officers, Ben Cash, as saying that the documents Mr. Preston found contained a bill from a motel near New Orleans bearing the names of Oswald and Ruby.

The bill also listed two long-distance telephone calls to the "Cuban Embassy" and the "Soviet Embassy," according to Mr. Cash.

Mr. Cash reportedly said the date on the bills was two months earlier than the assassination in Dallas.

He said that another document described the scene of the assassination.

"I have no doubt that the writer of that document was the third man involved in the killing," Mr. Cash said.

Mr. Preston told the Enquirer: "We were told at the time that the documents were so important they were being rushed to Washington."

"But I was surprised when none of us were ever questioned or called before the Warren Commission. I figured decisions had been made by higher authorities to keep the conspiracy secret because of political repercussions."

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British business circles praise Japan economic management

DON, Aug. 11, (AFP). — Business circles here tend to echo praise for the Japanese economic management expressed by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) annual report on Japan.

At the same time, however, they are showing growing concern at the strength of Japan's export drive, especially since it goes against the country's effort to put its economy on a downward footing by putting an export-led expansion in of relying on in the past on "stop-go" home consumption, with its consequential balance of payments problems.

The British government is expected to bring increasing pressure directly and through international organisations, for a compliance by Japan with "good neighbour policy" which they say, the growing interdependence of national economies requires more than ever.

It will be pointed out that, with one and a half million unemployed, or 6.3 per cent of the population, the highest in Europe, the British government is itself under constant union and political pressure to restrict imports of manufactured goods in order to protect employment.

The pressure is likely to become more acute in the coming months as the balance of payments suffers the relapse forecast by economists. To correct it, the government relies on the use of its foreign exchange reserves to enforce its severe anti-inflationary wage policy, would not fully reflect any further unemployment creating austerity measures and the pressure for Italian-type deposits to discourage the

inflow of manufactured goods from Japan and elsewhere.

Meanwhile, commenting on the "broadly congratulatory and deservedly so" OECD report, the Financial Times newspaper recognised yesterday that "the Japanese performance in dealing with the economic problems of the past two years or so has indeed been quite as remarkable as the earlier years of high economic growth," adding, "with a performance like that, who needs advice from outside?"

Although the OECD notes that the medium-term economic plan to 1980, aiming at a "more social welfare-orientated economy" may have implications on the inflation front, the Financial Times believes that "there is sufficient leeway for this to take place without major disruption."

"There may of course be unpredictable political factors but the economic aims of the plan look achievable. Certainly, judging by the way the Japanese have dealt with their economic problems of the past, there seems no reason for undue scepticism now," the paper concludes.

The influential banking monthly the Bankers draws attention in its latest issue to Japan's new export drive, pointing out that "the mere scale of the export orders received is extraordinary with massive contracts for the supply and construction of complete plants worth some \$40 millions signed in the past two or three years."

"The boom could be only just beginning," it adds.

"Officially a target of \$12,000 million for this (fiscal) year has been mentioned and though (Ja-

panese) industrialists still consider this to be wildly optimistic, they are growing more confident themselves."

Another comment appears in the Economist, which, under the headline "Japan's exports zoom again," writes: "The amazing Japanese are exporting to other industrial countries like crazy. The Americans don't mind but the Europeans do."

The Economist explains that Americans know that there are things, ranging from aircraft to food grains, that Japan has to buy from them and that it will buy when the Japanese imports unsupplied goods.

Europe by contrast is trying to sell Japan the things that Japan is trying more successfully to sell to it.

After stressing that the EEC deficit with Japan has grown every year for the past six years from \$300 million in 1970 to 2,300 million last year, whereas America's deficit has seen-sawed, The Economist goes on: "The Americans say justly and orthodoxy that the Japanese ought to allow their yen to be undervalued. Europe agrees in theory but in practice is more concerned about the structural problems."

Meaning, in crude terms, that too many Japanese cars, television sets, and the like are flooding into European markets and not nearly enough European goods of the same kind are arriving in Japan.

Of course, Japan is hinting that it may buy many more raw materials in the period ahead, but notes the weekly, "Britain, which needs urgently to see that import prices of raw materials do not soar, has reason not to feel too happy about that."



CARTER AND NADER GROUP — Democratic presidential nominee Jimmy Carter chats with Representative Jack Brooks, Democrat Tennessee, and consumer advocate Ralph Nader (right), prior to a luncheon of the Ralph Nader Public Citizens Forum in Washington.

Taiwan threatens Japan in music instruments market

TAIPEI, Aug. 11, (AFP). — Taiwan's musical instruments, particularly guitars, have won ground in international markets posing a threat to Japanese production.

Taiwan used to import a large quantity of musical instruments and spare parts. With the establishment of more than 200 manufacturers and exporters, the island's musical instrument industry has developed rapidly in recent years and exports exceeded imports by \$ 3.7 million in 1973.

Export items included guitars, which represented 80 per cent of the volume, violins, trumpets, drums, organs, piano-fortes, and electric pianos.

Chinese musical instruments such as lutes, fiddles, and moon guitars were also exported to the United States, Japan, and southeast Asian countries.

Taiwan-produced guitars are popular in the United States, Japan and European countries. With production costs lower than in Japan, Taiwan-made guitars have taken over part of the markets in which the Japanese used to predominate.

The United States, which absorbs 60 per cent of Taiwan's musical instrument exports, is the biggest market for local products, followed by Australia, Canada, Britain, and West Germany.

It is expected that with the advantages of steady supplies, international standard techniques and lower production costs, Taiwan will be able to compete with Japan in musical instrument exports.

W. Germany, Britain donate to UNRWA

UNITED NATIONS, Aug. 11, (R). — West Germany has made a special contribution of 4,713,560 marks and Britain has pledged 200,010 pounds in additional funds to the U.N. Relief Works Agency for Palestine Refugees, it was announced today.

The W. German donation is additional to Bonn's regular cash gift of two million marks and a gift of 1,324.5 tons of flour.

Britain's regular contribution to UNRWA for 1976 was three million pounds. Since 1950, the British government has pledged or given 147 million pounds in cash and goods to the agency, as well as contributing to it through the European Economic Community.

Today's announcement said the British pledge stated that the special gift might be increased to 10 per cent.

Soviet navy defends passage of Kiev in Bosphorus Straits

MOSCOW, Aug. 11, (R). — The Soviet navy, sweeping aside western objections to the passage through the Bosphorus of its 40,000 ton warship Kiev, now is claiming the right to send whatever ships it chooses through the straits and into the Mediterranean.

This is the thrust of an authoritative article in the latest edition of the navy's monthly journal, Morskoi Sbornik, which rejects outright recent suggestions in the west that the Kiev's passage last month violated the 1936 Montreux Convention.

Its author is a legal expert and Captain First-Rank, Valentin Serkov. He insists there is no basis for the argument that warships like the Kiev — which the Soviet navy classes as anti-submarine cruisers — are really aircraft carriers and so barred from the Bosphorus.

"As a thorough analysis of the Montreux Convention shows, one can consider from a legal point of view that passage through the straits by any ships of states on the Black Sea does not contradict the letter and spirit of the convention," he says.

The Montreux Convention regulates the size and type of warships permitted to pass through the Dardanelles Straits and the Bosphorus linking the Black Sea and the Mediterranean. It specifically bans aircraft carriers.

Western naval attaches in Moscow who have read Captain Serkov's commentary are convinced that it was approved at a very high level, possibly by the Commander of the Soviet fleet, Admiral Sergei Gorshkov.

While the convention forbids other countries to send aircraft carriers, submarines and warships above a fixed tonnage through the straits into the Black Sea, the Soviet Union and other countries with a Black Sea coastline have preferential rights, Captain Serkov says.

Providing they observe certain conditions, they may send through "submarines and surface vessels of practically any displacement and armament," he adds.

The "practically" is not explained. Instead, Captain Serkov glosses over the annex to the convention which makes clear that not even Black Sea states can send through aircraft carriers.

Apparently Soviet naval chiefs feel no modern Soviet warship is likely to meet the Montreux definition of a carrier as a ship conceived or equipped primarily to transport aircraft or put them into action.

Britain disagrees and has made plain that it regards the Kiev's passage on July 18 as a breach of the convention.

Turkey said at the time there had been no such violation.

A precedent has thus been set for Kiev's sister ship, the Minsk, which has been launched from the same Black Sea shipyard in Nikolayev but has yet to put to sea. Work is still under way on a third ship in the series, western naval attaches say.

According to NATO reconnaissance, the Kiev is armed with at least two types of missiles, torpedoes and electronic anti-aircraft guns, as well as the 30 to 35 helicopters and Yak jump-jets it now carries.

Study of reconnaissance photographs is understood to have shown that the Kiev bears a striking resemblance to the new "through-deck cruisers" planned by Britain for use with sea Harrier jump-jets.

Because of the protection its aircraft provide against air attack, submarines, and missile-carrying patrol boats, western attaches believe the Kiev will probably be put to use eventually in areas like the Indian Ocean where a Soviet fleet is out of range of land-based air cover.

The attaches say its present voyage towards an Arctic base on the Kola peninsula, which can be given air cover from the land, is therefore probably more of an Arctic sea trial.

Before the winter it could return through the Bosphorus to Nikolayev for testing and tuning before setting out again next year for more distant waters.

COMECON project spending over \$ 13 m.

BRUSSELS, Aug. 11, (AFP). — Joint projects launched by the eight members of COMECON—the Eastern European economic co-operation body—involve spending to date at least \$ 13,700 million.

COMECON Secretary-General Mr. Fadyev gave this figure in an article in the latest issue of Ekonomicheskaya, an economic monthly.

He said the COMECON countries—the Soviet Union and six eastern European countries—will spend a total of \$ 11,800 million in the energy sectors and \$ 10 million on scientific research under their programme of integration.

Mr. Fadyev, the first of the two banks granted member countries loans totalling \$ 22,400 million in the past five years to help finance 40 industrial projects, of which 23 had now been completed.

One of these was the development of a third generation unified computer system.

According to official figures, the COMECON countries raised their gross national revenue by 36 per cent in the past five years, while increasing their industrial output by 50 per cent. Agricultural output however rose by no more than 14 per cent. The East Berlin summit blamed this on unfavourable weather conditions.

Most of COMECON's biggest multilateral projects are located in Siberia, but there are several in eastern European member countries and even in Cuba, which joined the common planning work last month. COMECON is building a multinational integrated nickel plant in Cuba.

Among the key COMECON projects are the giant 2,700 kilometre (1,680 mile) pipeline project designed to carry natural gas from Siberia to eastern Europe, a high tension line to carry electric power from the USSR to Hungary, a giant cement plant at Erfurt in East Germany, the big steelworks of Katowice, Poland, and a synthetic rubber plant in Romania.

Mr. Fadyev stressed in his article that COMECON's multilateral scientific cooperation now involves some 1,600 scientific bodies, including 200 university level research institutions.

He said that in the 1971-75 period, these bodies had carried out 5,000 research projects provided for in the coordinated programme.

their coordinated programme both for the five-year period ended last year and for the five years up to 1980.

But in his article, Mr. Fadyev disclosed that COMECON's two jointbanking institutions—the bank for international economic co-operation, and the bank for international investment—had a global turnover of about \$ 330,000 million in the five years from 1971 to 1975. He said their turnover in 1975 totalled \$ 88,400 million, or 70 per cent more than in 1971.

This gives a pointer to the investment needs in the nine-nation economic area.

Mr. Fadyev, the first of the two banks granted member countries loans totalling \$ 22,400 million in the past five years to help finance 40 industrial projects, of which 23 had now been completed.

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He said that in the 1971-75 period, these bodies had carried out 5,000 research projects provided for in the coordinated programme.

\$ 13,700 million cited by Fadyev might only be the iceberg: COMECON far withheld figures for projects forming part of

Man to have development bank

CAT, Aug. 11 (R). — Omani State Sultan Qabus has approved the establishment of an Omani development bank to encourage private participation in the development of the country, it was announced here today.

The announcement said the bank would have a capital of 10 million Omani rials (about \$ 20,000), of which 40 per cent would be contributed by the government, 40 per cent by Omani sources, and the remainder by Omani private sources.

The bank will grant short and term loans to Omani companies for use in the fields of industry, agriculture, petroleum, and fisheries.

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Soviet abstract art lives again in one Moscow flat

MOSCOW, (CSM)—George Costakis already has performed one great service for Russian modern art of the early 20th century—he saved it for the "second life" it currently enjoys.

He hopes to do another service for it: to bequeath it to the Russian people.

Over the years the Costakis collection has become legendary. Typically, a representative of New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art came by in May to seek Soviet government permission (still moot) to include some of Mr. Costakis' paintings in next April's big Metropolitan exhibit of Russian art.

American collector Joseph H. Hirshhorn vainly offered Mr. Costakis a blank cheque for his entire lot of paintings. Even Kennedys and Rockefellers and other American politicians who make the whistle-stop tour of Moscow manage to see Mr. Costakis and his magnificent canvases.

All these people are simply following a well-worn trail. For numerous Western art lovers there are only two reasons for visiting the Soviet Union: the great Hermitage Museum in Leningrad, and the display in George Costakis' 15th-floor apartment at the edge of Moscow.

This anomaly—a private collector of abstract art in a socialist society that outlaws all artistic styles except literal "socialist realism"—began just after World War II.

Mr. Costakis—a Greek citizen who grew up in Moscow, where his father was a tobacco merchant—began by collecting traditional Dutch masterpieces and antique silver and porcelain.

But in the 1940s, he says, he "got a little tired of old paintings" with their sameness of old colours, so he turned to Russian mod-

ernist pictures and constructions of a quarter century earlier that no one else was interested in.

"When I first got avant garde painters, three or four paintings, there was such a difference!" Mr. Costakis exults. "They were very dynamic, very colourful, very gay. I liked them very much."

In fact, these "very dynamic, very colourful" paintings were part of what has since been acclaimed in the West as one of those sudden explosions of artistic genius that occasionally stuns the world.

From 1913 on, Kasimir Malevich with his suprematism, Vladimir Tatlin with his constructivism, and their disciples and rebels provided remarkably specific precursors of modern American art in the 1940s, 1950s and 1960s.

Mr. Costakis finds this creative artistic burst in 20th-century Russia as inexplicable as the sudden burst of world literary classics in 19th-century Russia. But he tends to attribute the vitality of the Russian avant garde to the mix of Europe and Asia in this country.

The modern movement in art was short-lived in Russia. By 1926 only 13 years after it began, it had burned out.

Its brevity was not primarily the result of government strictures, Mr. Costakis believes. To be sure, the Communist revolutionaries who embraced revolutionary art in the first few years after 1917 later reverted to an obligatory ultraconservative art.

But Mr. Costakis points out that many of the avant garde painters themselves ceased modern experimentation even before the crackdown. The audience—and the buyers—just were not there. The artists were too far in advance of their time.

No one could understand (the

new works) because there were such differences from five centuries of art before. What they were doing in this period didn't look like art. It was (considered) junk.

"In the 1920s I think they started to hesitate and ask themselves if they were going in the right way or not. The czarist regime didn't recognise them. The revolutionary regime also didn't recognise them (after some initial enthusiasm). Little by little some of the painters changed, without hard pressure.

"First was Vera Pestel. In 1916 she said to Tatlin and Malevich that what they were doing and she was doing was completely wrong and could never be recognised. So she left the group and... became again a figurative painter."

"Rodchenko stopped geometrical abstractions. And he was one of the biggest experimenters. He started doing photomontage. Tatlin stopped his counterreliefs. In the end he was a more-or-less utilitarian artist, doing furniture and clothing."

"This continues to 1925-26. From 1926 on few painters remained, and in the 1930s very cruel and hard pressure was put on them by Stalin. Everything was forbidden. The 1930s—this was the end."

"Many paintings, sculptures, hanging constructions, and reliefs and counterreliefs were destroyed by the artists themselves. What remained was thrown into corners here and there, and no one took any care of (the works) because there was no hope... that this art would get a second life in 20 or 30 years."

It took another generation—and the imitation of abstract art by Sputniks and nuclear physics—before viewers could perceive the artists' prophetic vision, Mr. Costakis contends.

When he began collecting in the 1940s, the recognised elite of the revolutionary period consisted of only eight or nine artists. In his own evaluation—which he describes as "not very knowledgeable"—Mr. Costakis expanded this to some 45 or 47.

Today, his choices have been fully endorsed by Western critics. They read like a who's who of the early modernists: Chagall, Kandinsky, Lissitsky, the Enders brothers and sisters, Kliun, and Zverev.

In the early postwar period Stalin's repressive cultural policy was still in its heyday. Memories of Stalin's slaughter of independent intellectuals in the purges of the 1930s were fresh. But Mr. Costakis was discreet in his collecting, and he says he never suffered any retribution for it.

His greatest difficulties came in locating the paintings that had survived—and sometimes in convincing fearful relatives of artists that he was not trying to stir up trouble in his search for this forbidden art.

"It wasn't easy to find those works," Mr. Costakis recalls. "There were no private collections of this kind because nobody recognised those painters before the revolution. And even after the revolution nobody liked them."

"The exceptions were just poets and close friends who got on one or two presents from the artists. I had to buy (works) personally from the artists or from their families, widows or relatives."

"Sometimes there were difficulties because people (wondered)

why I was asking for those paintings. Everyone was afraid to have them... But later, when they found I was doing this with all my heart, and I liked them, and when friends told them so," then the suspicion melted.

And Mr. Costakis acquired 90 per cent of his collection at prices "no one would believe—just nothing."

In one instance he rescued a painting on plywood by Lyubov Popova that was being used to board up a barn window—on the condition he supply a replacement piece of plywood to keep out the drafts.

In another case he and the widow of Kilmont Rychko discovered a cache of "electro-organisms" the artists had painted in his early years—abstracts unknown to her.

The physical conditions under which Mr. Costakis pursued his avocation would have daunted a less determined collector.

For years, because of the housing shortage, he and his wife occupied a single room in a communal flat shared with four others. Then they progressed to two rooms, then three rooms. Mr. Costakis hung some paintings on the ceiling and paintings on top of paintings.

Finally, six years ago, he acquired an apartment in one of the new prefabricated skyscrapers that ring Moscow. This apartment is very comfortable by Russian standards, although still cramped by Western norms.

Now the world recognition that Mr. Costakis hoped for 20th-century Russian art has come, and his collection is worth millions of dollars.

He is no dealer, however; his dream is to make their rich artistic heritage available to the Russians themselves. Mr. Costakis already has done as much as he can in opening his apartment to foreign visitors, young Russian artists and others who want to see his paintings.

But the numbers are limited to a crowded 80 at one time—and the groups are limited by the very expansiveness of Mr. Costakis' hospitality, which often includes singing a few songs to guests to his own guitar accompaniment.

As yet there is no catalogue or even full set of photographs of the Costakis collection. That was cause for special regret when some thousand of his lesser-known watercolours and gouaches were stolen in three mysterious thefts between September, 1974, and January, 1976. None of the stolen works has been recovered.

A book under negotiation between Mr. Costakis and Viking Press might help to rectify the lack of a catalogue. The book's publication is uncertain, however, as Mr. Costakis says he has not secured the publisher's consent to let a young Russian art historian whom Mr. Costakis admires write a major portion of the manuscript.

Even more uncertain is the ultimate disposition of Mr. Costakis' collection. He has informed the Soviet government he would like to bequeath his collection to the Soviet museum—provided it would be shown and not just stacked in cellars or sold piecemeal to eager Western buyers.

So far, however, he has received

no such assurances from the government. Therefore, Mr. Costakis has not committed his collection.

The late Soviet Culture Minister Yekaterina Furtseva met three times with Mr. Costakis to discuss a possible exhibition of his works in the Soviet Union. Mr. Costakis had been led to believe the current culture minister, Pyotr Demichev, might approve such an exhibition at the Tretyakov Gallery of Russian art in the autumn of 1976 or the spring of 1977.

There were rumours, also, that Soviet officials might authorise a later exhibition abroad and even publication of a book about the collection.

But months have passed, and there is no sign the present officials are feeling that culturally daring.

All of this poses a clear ideological dilemma for the authorities. Hailing the Russian avant garde as the Soviet Union's own world heirloom, the country's present leadership as the legitimate heirs of that revolutionary art.

But official "rehabilitation" of that unorthodox art could threaten the conservative socialist realist style that has been enforced here for half a century.

The premeditated murder of that character without blemish: Mickey Mouse

SAN FRANCISCO, (AP).—Dan O'Neill draws cartoons poking fun at the U.S. flag, Coca Cola and the Virgin Mary, but it's a federal crime if he draws a mouse.

O'Neill and two other cartoonists are under U.S. court order to stop drawing Walt Disney characters in situations that a lawsuit says are ruining the good name of Mickey Mouse.

The Air Pirates, publishers of three comic books about Mickey and friends, claim they just showed Mickey "behaving like everyone else in the real world: 'taking drugs, making war and having sex — and sex organs.'"

In its suit against the Air Pirates, Walt Disney Productions claims the cartoonists are out to transform Mickey and his friends from "internationally accepted sources of delightful entertainment to objects of public revulsion."

"I'm afraid to draw anything in case some judge thinks it looks like 'The Mouse,'" says O'Neill, who lives in Oakland and freelances cartoons for a variety of publications.

"It's going to be really embarrassing if I have to go to jail," he adds. "I'm going to be in there with rapists and murderers, and they're going to ask me what I'm in for, and I'm going to have to tell them I'm in for drawing a mouse."

U.S. District Judge Albert C. Wollenberg agreed in summary judgment nearly a year ago that Disney's copyright had been infringed and ordered the Air Pirates to pay \$190,000 in damages. The Air Pirates asked the 9th U.S. Court of Appeals to send the case back for a trial, and are waiting for the appeals court to set a



George Costakis in his apartment — one man saving a nation's abstract art.

date for arguments. It isn't the first time Disney has gone to court to uphold the honour of Mickey Mouse. Last year they won a copyright claim against a pornographic filmmaker who wanted to use "The Mickey Mouse Club March" as background for an orgy.

Disney's lawyers refuse to discuss the case outside the briefs filed with the court.

O'Neill and the other Air Pirates, Bobby London and Ted Richards, claim a First Amendment right to use Disney's characters for the purpose of satire.

"Everybody knew these comic books could not possibly have come from Disney, so nobody could possibly think that Disney has become a dope fiend or a sex maniac," says Michael Kennedy, the Air Pirates' lawyer.

Kennedy adds that the buyers of Disney comic books—children, mostly—are not likely to be in the market for dirty funnies.

"The theory behind copyright is that it's unfair for me to enrich myself by ripping off your product," he says. "The Air Pirates

not only did not get rich, did not rip off Disney." O'Neill says the only "me" he's made from the cartoons is at a comic book convention where a few copies of the Pirates books—rare because judge ordered the 60,000 copies impounded in 1972—were sold for more than \$100 apiece.

To the lawsuit's claim the cartoonists intended to "defame the image and good will" of characters now enjoyed "throughout the world," the Air Pirates reply: "guilty."

Two generations of Americans have been bottle-fed infancy upon the inspired, if less, vanilla ice cream image paginated lucratively by the "empire," wrote Richards' paper filed with the court.

"They've put all these characters on me," complains O'Neill, "demanding disparagement, unfair competition, intentional injury. What the summary judge really got me for was agreeing myself by ripping off your product," he says. "The Air Pirates

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